

AN ORDINANCE

101692

**ADOPTING A CITY POLICY TO DISCONTINUE THE
PRACTICE OF PICKING UP OWNED AND UNWANTED
ANIMALS FROM THEIR HOMES, AS REQUESTED BY
COUNCILMEMBER ELENA K. GUAJARDO, DISTRICT 7.**

* * * * *

WHEREAS, Animal Care Services (ACS) reports that in 2004, there were 53,497 impoundments of animals at its facility; and

WHEREAS, of the number of impoundments in 2004, 17,000 animals were owner-surrendered, 8,600 of which were surrendered from the owners' homes; and

WHEREAS, currently owner surrendered animals make up over 30% of the animals impounded at the ACS's facility; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 101222 passed on August 18, 2005, the City Council adopted and approved a two month moratorium on picking up owned and unwanted animals from their homes; and

WHEREAS, the moratorium period which ended in October 2005 significantly reduced the number of animals that ACS impounded at their facility; and

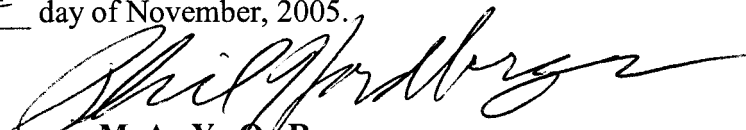
WHEREAS, in order to enable ACS to manage the animal population better, place more animals for adoptions and promote more responsible pet ownership in San Antonio, it is necessary to adopt a City policy of not picking up owned and unwanted animals from their homes; **NOW THEREFORE;**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:


SECTION 1. A City policy to discontinue the practice of picking up owned and unwanted animals from their homes is hereby adopted and approved and City staff is hereby authorized to put this policy into effect.

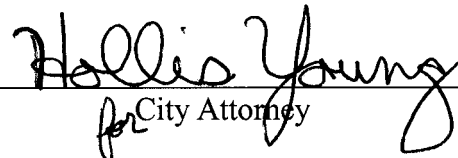
SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be effective on and after November 27, 2005.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 17th day of November, 2005.


M A Y O R

PHIL HARDBERGER

ATTEST: 
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM 
for City Attorney

Agenda Voting Results

Name: 8.

Date: 11/17/05

Time: 04:42:25 PM

Vote Type: Multiple selection

Description: An Ordinance adopting a City policy to discontinue the practice of picking up owned and unwanted animals from their homes, as requested by Councilmember Elena K. Guajardo, District 7.

[Presented by Sam Sanchez, Animal Care Administrator; Frances A Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager]

Voter	Group	Status	Yes	No	Abstain
ROGER O. FLORES	DISTRICT 1		x		
SHEILA D. MCNEIL	DISTRICT 2		x		
ROLAND GUTIERREZ	DISTRICT 3		x		
RICHARD PEREZ	DISTRICT 4		x		
PATTI RADLE	DISTRICT 5		x		
DELICIA HERRERA	DISTRICT 6		x		
ELENA K. GUAJARDO	DISTRICT 7		x		
ART A. HALL	DISTRICT 8		x		
KEVIN A. WOLFF	DISTRICT 9		x		
CHIP HAASS	DISTRICT_10		x		
MAYOR PHIL HARDBERGER	MAYOR		x		

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
ANIMAL CARE SERVICES
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Sam Sanchez, Animal Care Services Administrator

SUBJECT: Moratorium on Owner Surrendered Animals

DATE: November 17, 2005

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The ordinance extends the moratorium adopted on August 18, 2005 and makes it permanent. The City will not pick up owner surrendered animals from their homes. Persons wishing to surrender their pets will need to come to 210 Tuleta to surrender their animals.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Currently, owner surrendered animals make up over 30% of the animals impounded at the Animal Care Services Facility. This has contributed to overcrowding, high euthanasia numbers and increase of diseases in the kennels. The moratorium adopted on August 18, 2005 and ended on October 17, 2005 significantly reduced the numbers of animals that Animal Care Services impounded at the facility. This allowed staff to manage the populations better, place more animals up for adoption and allowed for the humane administering of euthanasia by injection for those animals that were put down.

The response from the public was positive. Animals bites did not increase or decrease during this time. Animals that bit persons were picked up regardless whether they were owner surrendered or not.

This step is but one of many that Animal Care Services will be launching to promote more responsible pet ownership in San Antonio. People must understand that Animal Care Services is there to solve problems in the community, not to take responsibility from citizens in caring for their pets.

POLICY ANALYSIS

This changes the policy of picking up owner surrendered pets from person's homes at their request. It is in keeping with the changes that have been implemented at the Animal Care Facility to manage the shelter in a more humane manner, increase adoptions and place more responsibility on citizens for the care of their pets.

FISCAL IMPACT

City Council adopted a budget with fees for surrendered animals for the FY Budget 2005/2006. There will be less fees collected for owner surrendered pets. This revenue issue can be revisited during the year to see if a fee can be collected at the animal drop-off site at the Animal Care Facility. All other owner surrendered fees at the shelter will remain in place.

COORDINATION

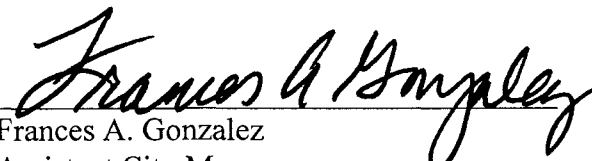
This has been coordinated with City Attorney's office and the Office of Management and Budget.

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

Provisions of the Ethics Ordinance do not apply.



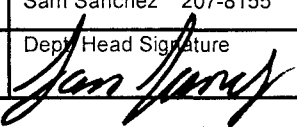
Sam Sanchez
Animal Care Services Administrator



Frances A. Gonzalez
Assistant City Manager

Sheryl Sculley
City Manager

#8

DO NOT TYPE IN THIS SPACE		CITY OF SAN ANTONIO			
Approval		Request For Ordinance/Resolution			
Finance	Budget			Consent Individual	
Legal MMMonica Hernandez X77356	Coordinator			Item No. Ord. No.	
Date: November 10, 2005		Department: Animal Care Services		Contact Person/Phone #: Sam Sanchez 207-8155	
Date Council Consideration Requested: November 17, 2005		Deadline for Action: November 17, 2005		Dept. Head Signature 	
<p align="center">SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE</p> <p>An Ordinance adopting a City policy to discontinue the practice of picking up owned and unwanted animals from their homes, as requested by Councilmember Elena K. Guajardo, District 7. [Presented by Sam Sanchez, Director, Animal Care Services; Frances A. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager]</p> <p align="center">Council Memorandum Must be Attached To Original</p>					
Other Depts., Boards, Committees Involved (please specify): Animal Care Services Advisory Board					
Contract signed by other party <div style="text-align: center;">Yes No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div>					
FISCAL DATA (If Applicable)					
Amount Expended					
Fund	370000000				
SAP GL Account		Funds/Staffing Budgeted Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
*Cost Center	370000000	Positions Currently Authorized Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
*Internal Order No.	*WBS (Capital Proj.)	Impact on future O & M Neutral			
*(Fill out only the field that is appropriate to your council action.)		If positions added, specify Class and Job No.			
Comments: Surrender fees will not be collected in the field. Surrender fees for litters of puppies and kittens collected at the shelter will not be impacted. Adoption revenues will make up the difference in revenues.		Please submit 3 copies with your original			

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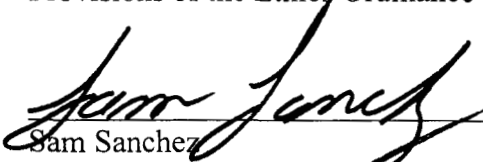
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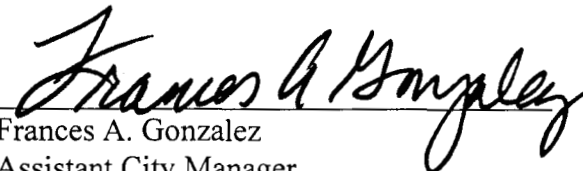
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Sam Sanchez
Animal Care Services Administrator



Frances A. Gonzalez
Assistant City Manager



Sheryl Sculley
City Manager

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